GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:288
ANSWERED ON:03.02.2017
Winter Gear to Soldiers
Siddeshwara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided latest winter gear including trousers, jackets and gloves to jawans deployed in places such as Siachen Glacier to enable them brave temperatures that even go below minus 50 degree celsius;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the need for replacing the existing kit was felt by Government after it was found that the jackets and trousers in use are not very comfortable and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to improve the living conditions of soldiers posted there and provide them integrated shelter huts which can provide protection to soldiers against extreme climate conditions of Himalayan region?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
????? ????? ?????? (??. ????? ?????)

(a) & (b): The jawans deployed at places such as Siachen Glacier are provided with the best quality winter clothing. This comprises 22 items of clothing in all, including trousers, jackets, gloves and sunglasses. The winter clothing provided to the jawans is designed to withstand extreme temperatures that even go below minus 50 degree Celsius.

(c) The kits provided are as per laid down specifications and no shortcomings have been reported. Upgradation and provision of improved version of winter clothing is a continuous process for which necessary steps are taken regularly.

(d) The soldiers deployed at places such as Siachen are being provided pre-fabricated insulated shelters (Fiber Reinforced Plastic) except at certain locations where due to terrain configuration and altitude, it is not possible to construct integrated shelters. The soldiers at such locations are provided with insulated tents to enable them to withstand extreme low temperatures.

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